

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Regular Board of Police Commissioners Meeting Thursday, June 26, 2003

(COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

The regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, June 26, 2003, at 3:00 p.m., at Police Headquarters, 1300 Beaubien, Rm. 328-A, Detroit, MI 48226.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Megan Norris (ABS)
Willie E. Hampton (ABS)
Arthur Blackwell, II (ABS)
Erminia Ramirez
Edgar L. Vann, Jr.

Department Personnel Present

AC Walter E. Shoulders
AC Timothy Black
DC Gloria Reynolds
Sgt. Ron Harper
Sgt. Kenneth Williams
Sgt. Debbie Jackson
PO Irvette Reed
Dir. Elise Scott
Atty. Nancy Ninowski

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Executive Director
Denise R. Hooks, Attorney/Supv. Investigator
Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator
Michelle McDonald, Community Affairs Coordinator
E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes, Personnel Director

RECORDERS

Jerome Adams
Kellie Williams

OTHERS PRESENT

Ms. Walters
Ron Scott
Phillip Craccioholo
Atty. Thomas Zulch
Gloria Canales
Rodney McDuffie
Hodari Brown
Muhammad Shabazz
Teresa Lewis
Ms. Barbara Watkins

1. CALL TO ORDER

Comm. Vann called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 3:20 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Comm. Vann stated the following Minutes will be tabled until the next Board meeting:

- Thursday, June 12, 2003 (Community Meeting)
- Thursday, June 19, 2003

3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

None.

4. SECRETARY REPORT – EX. DIR. GOSS

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

	<u>This Week</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Weekly Count of Complaints:	12	530
Weekly Count of Allegations:	15	955
Arrest	1	33
Demeanor	6	321
Entry	0	14
Force	0	75
Harassment	1	45
Procedure	5	308
Property	1	44
Search	0	31
Service	1	82

Pending Cases

As of June 25, 2003, the Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) has a total of 530

pending cases, which include **155 cases** with an age of 0-45 days, **45 cases**

with an age of 46-60 days, **79 cases** with an age of 61-90 days, and **119 cases** with an age of 91-120 days, and **132 cases** with an age of 121 days – 6 months.

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During the past week:	12	Year to Date:	496
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5. CHIEF'S REPORT

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT
MIND'N OUR BUSINESS

Board of Police Commissioners

The Detroit Police Department's mission is building a safer Detroit through community partnerships. Therefore, the following enforcement actions were conducted during the week of June 18th – 24th, 2003:

ORGANIZED CRIME AND GANG DIVISION

The Conspiracy Intelligence, South-East, North-West and Vice Sections conducted seven enforcement actions that resulted in (2) misdemeanor, (4) felony arrests. These enforcement actions resulted in the confiscation of 17,918.0 grams of marijuana, 14.5 grams of cocaine and 17.5 grams of heroin with a total street value of \$108,972.00. \$2,354,000.00 in U.S. currency and (13) vehicles and (1) hand-gun were confiscated from these enforcement actions.

SECOND PRECINCT

On June 18, 2003, officers of the Second Precinct received information on a possible "Robbery Armed, Unlawful Driving Away Automobile" in the area of Intervale and Indiana. The officers while on patrol, observed a vehicle that fit the description of the stolen vehicle. A check with the Law Enforcement Information Network indicated that the vehicle observed was in fact the stolen vehicle. The officers initiated a traffic stop, which resulted in the occupant of the vehicle being arrested and conveyed to the Second Precinct without incident.

PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT

On June 17, 2003, officers of Property Crimes Unit responded to 6400 Tireman regarding an embezzlement investigation of a recently terminated employee.

While the officers were at the location, a worker at the location discovered two baseball style hand grenades in the locker of the terminated employee. The Bomb Disposal Unit was requested. As a result of the Bomb Disposal Unit's examination, it was discovered that both grenades were live. The grenades were secured and detonated at another location. The terminated employee was arrested at the scene.

Chief of Police Jerry A. Oliver, Sr.

6. PRESENTATION – TECHNOLOGY PLAN

AC Shoulders introduced DC Gloria Reynolds from the Science and Technology Division and stated that she will be giving a presentation on the Technology Plan.

DC Gloria Reynolds gave the following presentation:

(See Attached)

Questions/Answers:

Comm. Ramirez asked does only one person fixes the in car video cameras or is it more than one?

DC Reynolds stated there is one person from the vendor that is assigned here.

Comm. Ramirez asked for the whole Detroit Police Department?

DC Reynolds stated correct. I think that hasn't been an issue. When we had all of the videos installed, they had three people here. I am not aware that the one person has a long list of repairs that he is not getting to. Once we got a hold of some accountability into the systems on the repairs and the type, I don't think that that is a real issue. We are looking at wireless systems, that eliminate anyone having to retrieve the video from the vehicle because it would automatically upload and store on the server and would be available throughout the Department to anyone who had proper sign on excess to view. So, we are looking at those types of things, it's just that the technology keeps going and going.

Comm. Ramirez stated I agree with you because technology is always changing. She asked how soon are the work orders completed? For example, you insert the tape and the red light goes on, does that mean it is working?

DC Reynolds stated I don't know. The one person that does the video does not do that, he gets a referral from the precinct, where the officers as they get into

the vehicle supervisors, inspect the videos and determine that the VCR is not operating properly. At that point, they have to make out a PCR and the vehicle is taken to Lyndon, where the technician looks at the system. Most of the time, when vehicles that are brought in, Department personnel will also look at it and screen it to see if it is something minor like a fuse or something like that and they will change that. It is only does things that require a little more knowledge that are referred to the vendor for repair.

Comm. Vann stated you spoke about pre-existing contracts, which seems to be a part of the environment and the probably because there are some problems down the road because you are dealing with some contractors that are not efficient. He asked do you have a lot of longstanding contracts that are still there or enforced?

DC Reynolds stated we still have video contracts. We have a contract, as we got into rolling out a CAD system, which is Computer Aided Dispatch, and then you discover that the radio system that we use now to transmit data from the MDT's that are currently in the cars, is an analog system. So now that we are going to use computers we have to upgrade the radio system. In other words, there was an existing contract to change out the base station at the towers. As we get further we found out that our phone system is not capable of carrying the kind of data that we want to put video on a server, so we are also looking at upgrading the phone system and connecting the precincts using fibers. So every step along the way we get to something else. To say that we have a plan, no we don't have a plan, we are just trying to make good decisions as finances and time allows us to do.

Comm. Vann stated the other question has to do with the data that goes into our crime reporting and statistical reporting. As you know, before in previous leadership of the Department, we were always told, though we vigorously disputed it, that the computers duplicated imputations. For example, if you put in one suspect, then it comes out that it was two arrests. He asked do we still have the problem with the data being skewed because of the computers malfunctioning?

DC Reynolds stated I don't believe so. My understanding is that I think the crime stats are being reported accurately. People do not trust the stats reports that report that there has been some definite drops in crime. For the first time the State of Michigan sent back an affidavit for us to check our stats and then sign to show that they are true. To my knowledge they are true. When we go to the new system, the Neighbor compliant crime report our stats will increase. The system that we are using will allow us at the same time to compute our stats like we do now. So we will be able to say that while are stats are higher now this is what they would have been had we been continuing to report under the new system. But that's because of the way the FBI breaks down crime and the

different things that have to be counted. So that has happened every where wherever any agency has switched their crime report.

Comm. Vann stated I always thought that someone in Management Services or somebody who responsibility this is to take a look at some of these logistical things to figure out how you can consolidate certain things and create certain certainties. Like other cities have one central lockup, it just makes sense to me that the City of the Detroit ought to have one central lockup and the Wayne County Sheriff's working in cooperation with the Sheriff's Department. As far as that is concerned it could work for Hamtramck and Highland Park as well and just have one lockup that is run by the County Sheriff's Department and then we could get out of the lockup business completely. Have you found other ways in which you and the technology area could consolidate systems or data as it relates to not only this, but also the Risk Management system to build efficiencies?

DC Reynolds stated I think most of the time when you implement technology, you are going to be able to do so much more than you had been able to do before. However, the people that you were using to do the other job, you are going to need right now to do the new one because there are more things and different things that you have to do. With a system like this, one of the things is that as we get into bigger computer systems, we need more computer IT people to keep these systems running. So we are going to get some efficiency in the precinct and the crime reporting process. Then the people that worked in Identification that were handling these crime reports now we are also going to have some document imaging, instead of keeping paper files we will scanning things and storing the electronically. We will be able to do a lot because we will have a lot of information management systems.

The risk management portion is part of the records management system. The records management system is going to allow us to collect all of this data. The risk management portion is the part that sits on top of it and turns it around and queries it and gives you reports. It is going to make that process a lot more efficient.

Comm. Ramirez asked the computers that you are referring to, are they laptop computers for the police officers?

DC Reynolds stated they call them Mobile Data Computers. We have had officers look at it. It is a little different than the laptop mount and it was felt that we would do better with a permanent mount. The computer itself is more like a tablet that would be mounted on the dash and there would be a special key. We will be able to outfit cars with just the mounting hardware, so that when we have some cars that are going to be out of service, we will be able to remove the computer and install it on another vehicle so that we could keep the computer

running. Basically, it is a tablet computer. It was interesting that most of the officers did not really care for the laptop where they could take it out of the vehicle and use it.

Comm. Vann stated thank you very much, you are always well informed and you always bring us a nice presentation.

7. DISCIPLINARY APPEALS ARGUED– APPEALS SUBCOMMITTEE

Comm. Vann stated the following Disciplinary Appeal Argued on February 27, 2003, will be tabled until the next Board Meeting:

- **PO Duane Thomas** **BPC 02-007D**

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Comm. Vann introduced Michelle McDonald, who is a member of the Board of Police Commissioners staff. He stated that she does a tremendous job with our community affairs. I also understand that there is a very special presentation to be made today.

Michelle McDonald stated I am the Community Affairs Coordinator for the Board of Police Commissioners. I am really pleased to announce the winner of our Second Annual Poetry Contest. Our poetry contest was geared towards Detroit high school seniors and the vision of the contest was the students' vision for an ideal relationship between the Detroit Police Department and the youths in Detroit. Before I formally introduced our student I would like to tell a little information about our student.

Hodari Brown, is a 2003 Honors Graduate of John J. Pershing Senior High School. He was the President of National Honor Society and will attend Tennessee State University in Fall 2003, to major in Computer Engineering and minor in Political Science.

During his high school career he participated in, the Student Council, Business Professional's of America, Class of 2003 Cabinet, Pershing's Local School Community Organization Student Board, Office Co-op, 11th Precinct Operation Weed & Seed Youth Committee, UAW-GM Powerteams, Detroit Urban League College Club, and the NAACP.

He was the founder of Pershing's Club of the Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program, which is a suicide/grieving-mentoring program for youth. Pershing is the only Detroit Public School to have a such a program.

He has received numerous distinctive awards and honors. He is the first 2003 Coca-Cola Scholar in Pershing's history. He is the only one from Detroit, and one of five from Michigan. He is the first United States Senate Youth Scholar in Pershing's history, and one of two from Michigan. He is the first Teen H.I.P.(Helping Influence People) Scholar, in Pershing's history. He is the first Paul Robeson Scholar in Pershing's history.

Mr. Brown is a member of the 35th and 36th Who's Who Among American High School students and he is a Dean of Student Perfect Attendance Awardee, never missing a day of school in fourteen years, and he is the first African American Valedictorian at Pershing with a 4.00 G.P.A.

Please join me in welcoming our poetry contest winner for 2003, Mr. Hodari Brown as he reads his poem.

Hodari Brown read the following poem:

MY COMMANDER AND ME

My Commander and Me,
We're two of a kind.
He runs the 11th Precinct,
I run Pershing's class of 2003.
He serves to protect,
I serve to educate.

My Commander and Me,
We're the best by far.
He patrols the streets of #11,
I patrol the halls of Pershing.

He speaks to the senior citizens,
I speak to the senior class.

My Commander and Me,
We're hard to come by.
He works continuously to make sure the
Streets of #11 are safe.
I work vigorously to make sure the
halls of Pershing are clear of trash.

My Commander and me,
We're a team.
A team that works together
Keep the streets safer and the
Halls at Pershing clean of graffiti.

My Commander and me,
We work together to protect the
citizens and students in the
Community and at Pershing.

My Commander and Me,
We're two of a kind.
Mr. Officer and Mr. Student,
That's us!

My Commander and Me,
We're the dynamic duo.
He's the past and I'm the future
But together we're the present of Detroit.

Mrs. McDonald stated thanks to the generosity of Shopper's World, we were able to award Hodari a \$500.00 super kit package. As you can see these are the items that he will be taking with him as he goes to college in the fall.

Comm. Vann stated on behalf of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, we want to certainly congratulate this fine scholarly young man and wish him much success in his academic endeavors as he go onto Tennessee State University. I think this is a great opportunity. I think that on behalf of all of us, we are really excited about this. This is a part of some of the initiatives that were put into place. I know that when I was chair of the Commission, to actually reach out to the community and to do more community activity with the Board of Police Commissioners and this was how we were giving the opportunity Mrs. McDonald, who has been a tremendous benefit to our work. So this helps us to reach out

and be blessing to finding deserving people like you. Thank you very much.

Comm. Ramirez asked did you bring someone with you that you would like to introduce?

Mr. Brown stated yes. He introduced his father, Mr. Muhammad Shabazz, Ms. Teresa Lewis and Ms. Barbara Watkins.

Comm. Vann stated I know Ms. Walters is smiling because she speaks about this kind of achievement on behalf of our young people so often.

Ms. Walters stated this is really wonderful.

Comm. Ramirez stated I have received quite a few phone calls in regards to the transfer of Cmdr. Barbieri at the 4th Precinct. Not to say that we want to undermine the authority of the Chief because it is in his right to transfer or whatever. So that I could return back answers, so that tell the organizations and agencies as to why the transfer of Cmdr. Barbieri. In light, of what has occurred there, he just received a recognition award on Tuesday from the Fourth Precinct community relation counsel and a lot of agencies and organizations were at that council meeting. The reason for the award was his dedication, his leadership and reorganizing the Fourth Precinct as far as reorganizing the offices and making it more people friendly, as far as, when services are need. So that I may go back and tell them something. I don't know what to tell them, I don't even know myself and we presented the award.

AC Shoulders stated the transfer of Cmdr. Barbieri and seven other individuals, there was no ulterior motive, it was done strictly for the benefit and best interest of the Department. We appreciate the fine work that Cmdr. Barbieri has done at the precinct and I am quite sure and positive that he will do just as good at his new assignment.

Comm. Vann stated we did receive recommendations for executive appointment from the Chief's Office, they just came to us. We do not have a quorum and we will be considering them on next week, just so everyone knows.

AC Shoulders stated thank you.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Phillip Craccioholio stated we are very gratified that after all the effort that we have put in over the past years that finally it has come to light that there was an independent investigation of the Detroit Police Department. I am afraid to say that it seem to me that the officials in charge of the Fourth Precinct should have

been a neutral contest, they shouldn't have favored one set of demonstrations over another. In fact, Cmdr. Barbieri came out and said that he supported his troops. I thought that this was not the right thing for an official to say concerning officers underneath him. It seem to me that the demonstrators that supported the indicted officers that they were shown favoritism, it seem like they had free access to the police department and they walked in and out of the doors. For the demonstrators that did not support those officers, we were restricted to where we could park. My opinion is that Cmdr. Barbieri should be given a reprimand because he should be neutral on this affair and not take particular sides because this is a case that is going to go to judification. So him coming up and supporting his officers shows some kind of bias to me.

Ms. Walters stated I am so proud of you darling (Hodari Brown), I wish there were 600 others, who would demonstrate what you have demonstrated today. There seems to be with you a marvelous sense of humility. I would ask you that you some how reflect on what has allowed you to flower. So that you can share it with others, especially those younger children, who are being influenced by so many things that are not good for them, which do not allow them to flower. I see you dad with you, impress upon them that there is some man of worth in the community to whom they must turn to in order to feel the powerful of an honorable man, who produces a person a like you. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak to you.

Comm. Vann stated thank you Ms. Walters, we really appreciate that.

10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, July 3, 2003 @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquarters – Rm. 328-A
1300 Beaubien
Detroit, Michigan 48226

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Minutes of the Regular BPC Meeting
(Committee of the Whole)
Thursday, June 26, 2003
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DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/kdw